

**Table 2: Proposed Substantial Revisions to the Existing Timber Waiver.**

Revision Number:	Existing:	Proposed change:	Explanation:
1	Timber harvest and vegetation management activities are categorized based on land ownership, Cal Fire jurisdiction and permitting, and potential threat to water quality.	Categorize timber harvest and vegetation management activities exclusively on potential threat to water quality. Project characteristics used to determine potential threat to water quality include proposed methods of tree removal, size and sensitivity of the project area (i.e. EHR, slope, project timing).	The monitoring and reporting requirements associated with the Timber Waiver are based on potential threat to water quality. Revising the project categorization to be based on potential threat to water quality will simplify the waiver.
2	Timber harvest & vegetation management activities occurring during the winter period are excluded from category 1 of the Timber Waiver. Therefore, all projects that involve winter operations, such as over-the-snow must comply with the Timber Waiver monitoring and reporting program.	Over-the-snow timber operations will be eligible for reduced monitoring and reporting. A specific monitoring and reporting program will be developed for fuel reduction projects involving winter operations.	Water Board staff find that when effective BMPs are utilized, over-the-snow timber harvest and vegetation management activities should not pose a significant threat to water quality.

Revision Number:	Existing:	Proposed change:	Explanation:
3	<p>Proponents of timber harvest &amp; vegetation management activities to be completed by hand crews are required to submit a Timber Waiver application, but are not subject to monitoring &amp; reporting.</p>	<p>Project proponents of vegetation management activities to be completed by hand crews will not be required to submit individual Timber Waiver applications or termination forms. Instead, land managers must submit a spreadsheet to the Water Board by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year that lists all work planned to be completed by hand crews. The spreadsheet must include: project identification, contact information of responsible persons, and a map identifying areas that are proposed for hand crew vegetation management activities.</p> <p>Land managers may amend these spreadsheets as needed by contacting and submitting required information to Water Board staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water Board staff find vegetation management activities completed by hand crews generally do not pose a significant threat to water quality and beneficial uses or waters of the State.</li><li>• All other applicable eligibility criteria &amp; conditions within the Timber Waiver will apply to projects to be completed by hand crews.</li><li>• Water Board staff will review these spreadsheets for completeness and reserve the authority to require a Timber Waiver application or Report of Waste Discharge for projects that may have a significant threat to water quality or beneficial uses of waters of the State.</li><li>• All agencies &amp; interested public shall have access to this information, pursuant to the California Public Records Act.</li></ul>

Revision Number:	Existing:	Proposed change:	Explanation:
4	<p>Vegetation management activities proposed to be completed by public land managers on their urban lot ownerships within the Lake Tahoe Region must comply with the Timber Waiver's monitoring &amp; reporting program, unless they meet the eligibility criteria and conditions of Category 1 of the Timber Waiver.</p>	<p>Vegetation management activities to be completed by public land managers (i.e. LTBMU, CTC, County, &amp; State Parks), within their urban lot ownerships, within the Lake Tahoe Basin would not be required to notify the Water Board of such activities or conduct monitoring and reporting. However, these land managers would still be responsible for protecting water quality by implementing all necessary BMPs. Additionally, all public agencies that intend to conduct vegetation management activities on urban lots, without notification to Water Board staff, must submit current land ownership maps to Water Board staff, and if these maps become inaccurate due to land acquisition or sale, the land managers must notify Water Board staff of these changes.</p>	<p>Water Board staff find vegetation management activities completed by public land managers, within their urban lot ownerships, which meet certain criteria, pose a less than significant threat to water quality and beneficial uses of waters of the State.</p>

Revision Number:	Existing:	Proposed change:	Explanation:
5	Vegetation management activities proposed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are not specifically addressed in the existing Timber Waiver. Projects proposed by the BLM can only qualify for coverage under the Timber Waiver under category 1 or 2.	Specifically address vegetation management activities proposed by the BLM, and tailor conditions and eligibility criteria to vegetation management projects typical of the BLM.	The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages a significant amount of vegetated land within the Lahontan Region. Water Board staff find it necessary to modify the Timber Waiver to address activities on BLM land, and make enrollment under the new Timber Waiver more explicit.
		Allow the placing and burning slash piles in SEZs where adequate mitigation measures and BMPs have been incorporated into the project description and sale/service contract, and where sufficient monitoring is proposed.	
	All timber harvest and vegetation management activities covered under the Timber Waiver must comply with the Water Quality Control Plan of the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan). Any project which requires an exemption to a prohibition within the Basin Plan must qualify for one on an individual basis.	Include a prohibition exemption for certain types of projects (i.e. for public health and safety) that meet specified criteria and incorporate specific design features which will avoid significant impacts to water quality and beneficial uses of waters of the State.	Including a prohibition exemption within the Timber Waiver will expedite the review and processing timeline for projects that require a prohibition exemption.

